

## D.C. Plans School Without Walls

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# D.C. Plans School Without Walls

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Washington Post Staff Writer

A new high school program that will send students to museums, businesses and government offices instead of regular classrooms was approved last night by the Washington school board.

The program, called a "school without walls," will open as a pilot project in September with 130 10th graders. There are about 10,000 10th graders in the system.

It will cost \$214,330, about \$1,650 per pupil, an increase of more than 60 per cent over regular high school costs.

Officials said, however, that costs would drop if the program is expanded later.

The program is patterned after the Parkway School, which opened in Philadelphia last fall. The program is patterned after the Parkway School, which opened in Philadelphia last fall.

A preliminary proposal for federal aid for the Washington program was tentatively rejected earlier this spring by the U.S. Office of Education. But Benjamin Henley, acting Washington school superintendent, said last night he would submit a revised proposal to the federal agency and to several private foundations.

Even if outside money cannot be found, Henley said, the program would go ahead, probably with money shifted from other school projects. Plans for the new program were drawn by a citizens' committee started last fall by two Georgetown residents, Richard T. Graham, national director of the Teacher Corps, and Georgia Delano, head of the Schola, an experimental private school on Wisconsin Avenue.

The proposal already has attracted wide interest among white parents in Georgetown and Cleveland Park who otherwise would send their children to Western High School. The original plan was to pick students by a lottery from among those applying. But at the board discussion last night, member James Coates insisted that there be an allotment system to insure that proportionate numbers of

children from all parts of the city take part.

The proposed "school" would conduct some regular history, English and mathematics in town. But students would spend most of their time working in individual programs at the museums, agencies and businesses that agree to take them.

The new program will be headed by a director with an annual salary of \$19,300. The staff will include seven teachers, five teaching interns, two guidance counselors and two secretaries.

Assistant Supt. George Rhodes said the program was needed for "students with talents who might otherwise be in the growing list of drop-outs."

Last night the school board also approved a \$26,000 project to plan for a new center to train high school students as nurses' aides, social workers, and aides in other social service occupations.

Students would attend the new center part-time in addition to their regular high schools as part of the system's new emphasis on vocational training.

Among the school principals' posts filled by the board last night was that of Deal Junior High School in upper Northwest. A. Lyman Warner, the new principal, said he applied for the job after reading an advertisement placed in *The Washington Post* by parents.

Under a policy adopted by the board in December, parents have had a considerable role in choosing school principals.

Warner, 34, is presently assistant principal at Hayfield Junior-Senior High School in Fairfax County.